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In 1855 Franklin was promoted to the grade of lieutenant, and in the grade of lieutenant-commander, created during the Civil War, he saw continuous and gallant service under Admiral Farragut. Soon after the close of the war, he was promoted to the grade of commander, and after service in many directions, both ashore and afloat, he finally reached, in the spring of 1885, through the grades of captain and commodore, the then highest grade in the navy, the rank of rear-admiral, when he was given command of the European squadron, with the frigate-built sloop-of-war *Pensacola* as his flagship. After a most delightful cruise in European waters, his age of retirement having arrived, in 1887, he hauled down his flag and returned home.

In 1889 he was appointed by the Secretary of the Navy as a delegate to the International Marine Congress, which assembled in Washington during that year. His ability and high standing in the service were recognized by the members of that distinguished body by their making him its president by a unanimous vote.

Without any pretension to high literary style, Admiral Franklin has given us a very graphic and interesting work. The book is replete with incidents and anecdotes of service life, and descriptive of his acquaintance and association with many distinguished men and women in all parts of the world. The volume, as a chronicle of naval life during the past sixty years, is of great historic value, and well worthy of a place in every public and private library in the land.

GEO. E. BELKNAP.

*Leading Events of Wisconsin History. The Story of the State.* By HENRY E. LEGLER. (Milwaukee: The Sentinel Company. 1898. Pp. viii, 320.)

MR. LEGLER'S Archæan frontispiece recalls those scientists who urged one to whom St. Augustine refers, to tell them what God was doing before he made the world. The answer, *Alta scrutantibus gehennas parabat* (*Confess.*, XI. 12), was a snub which gave them little satisfaction. The picture shows Wisconsin when the Mississippi was still as broad as Lake Michigan and united with it on the south. It might well be displaced by a modern map which readers, ever learning but never coming to knowledge of geography, sadly miss, while they will never look twice at the geological vagary, or even revelation.

Among the topics of the fifty-five chapters are the red men, especially as mound-builders and copper-miners, then the fur-traders, missionaries, fun-lovers and other explorers, the wars of Indians with each other as well as with French, English and Americans, the beginnings of white settlement, its transitions through lead, copper and iron mining, to agriculture and lumber-work onward from Black Hawk's defeat (1832), polyglot and congregated or segregated immigrations from the old world, the romantic era of "a Bourbon among us," social Utopias, booms and tragedies, a nullification tempest in a teapot, the Underground Railroad, and then politics up to date.

These leading events are introduced by sensational headings, spiced with anecdotes, and all in such an engaging style withal that at whatever page we open we are drawn along to the end of a chapter.

Some chapters, however, treat of matters at a great remove from Wisconsin, indeed as far off in space as the Archæan era was in time. Five pages are consecrated to the capture of Jeff Davis because Wisconsin men chased him though they did not catch him, and because he once served in the state as a regular army lieutenant. Cushing's sinking the *Albemarle* in North Carolina fills a still larger space. The only excuse for such a claim to far-off laurels is that, though he entered the navy from New York, he was of Wisconsin birth. With equal and rather more reason whatever Napoleon achieved should be included in the history of Corsica. Much space is given to copper and iron mining and the Gogebic boom, which all had and have their local habitations mainly in Michigan.

It is an open secret that Mr. Legler's book was published *in extenso* by the *Milwaukee Sentinel* in its Sunday issues during the first half of 1897. All local history was then seasoned by seasonableness since the Wisconsin year of jubilee (1898) was at hand. Newspaper men—up to everything, down to everything—grasped at every historic "greasy relic" if connected with Wisconsin by any thread however attenuated. The whole series with errors which he who runs can read, and known to no one so well as the author—with all its imperfections, even misprints on its head—its lack-lustre cuts greatly the worse for wear—was bound up as a thesaurus of Leading Events.

A critic's first utterance would be that such a serial sent into this breathing world *after* its time yet scarce half made up, ought in vain to beg pardon for being born again, and revisiting the glimpses of the moon. It strikes him as many links but no chain—a kaleidoscope which, shake it as you will, cannot form a historic picture.

On second thoughts, however, one must be more charitable. The work is the last fruit of much research not merely in the infinite gatherings of the State Historical Society, but in corners hitherto undetected. It embodies local incidents which, if not beneath the dignity of a general history, are too multitudinous to find room in its ample pages, and yet sparkle each with its own glow-worm Röntgen light regarding the age and body of the time. Such a book in a corrected edition, twelve baskets of broken meat gathered up that nothing may be lost, deserves a place in those travelling libraries, the practical inauguration and advancement of which last year by the liberality of Mr. Stout, a Wisconsin citizen, will always be reckoned among the Leading Events in the annals of the state.

Legler has made a good initiative. His illustrations which are a full hundred will indubitably in as many bookless hamlets start questionings in children who cannot yet read at all; older children, and parents as well, will be thus roused to read that they may render answers. Appetite growing by what it feeds on will not be content without something better. *Leading Events* will not obstruct the circulation of Thwaites's

*Story of Wisconsin*, just now coming out in a new edition. They will double it, and also the popular interest in the county histories which already leave no corner of the land untouched. They will be welcome to many a reader who glanced at them in his daily, which perished before he saw it a second time. They will correct and complete the knowledge he failed to secure at first in the newspaper which was the perfume and suppliance of a minute, and where every something, being blent together, turned to a wild of nothing. In book-form they will be never out of the way and will live in his brain all alone and unmixed with baser matter.

JAMES D. BUTLER.

*Introduction to the Study of History* (New York, Henry Holt, pp. xxvii, 350) is a translation of the *Introduction aux Études Historiques* of Langlois and Seignobos, which appeared early in the year. The translator is Mr. G. G. Berry, and there is an introduction by Professor F. York Powell. The character of the original work has already been set forth by Professor Haskins in the April number of the REVIEW. Professor Powell has unstinted praise for the work. He knows of no book "wherein the student of history will find such an organized collection of practical and helpful instructions." For teachers it is "one of the most suggestive helps that has yet appeared." He is not always in accord with the authors when they deal with theory, but as regards practical work he finds himself "in almost perfect concurrence with them."

This preface of fifteen pages is something more than an excellent introduction to the book; it has a value of its own. "History," says Professor Powell, "must be worked out in a scientific spirit, as biology and chemistry are worked out." The literary critic is beginning to find that he reads a history at his peril; only the expert can judge of its value or lack of value. "It is not a question of style, but of accuracy, of fulness of observation, and correctness of reasoning, that is before the student." Nevertheless he believes with the authors that a book may be good science and yet be good reading, and that the historian has no right to use a faulty, careless or clogged style.

The work of translation has, upon the whole, been well done. It is faithful to the original, preserving well the spirit and style of the French. The French idioms have been replaced, usually, by good, racy English equivalents; indeed, one is inclined at times to think that some of them are almost too racy. On the other hand, occasionally something of the force and vigor of the original seems unnecessarily lost. But these are exceptions. The English reader may feel confident that he is not losing unduly either of form or thought.

The table of contents is a much better analysis of the contents of the book than that in the original, and an index of names has been added. In its English form the book will undoubtedly find a much wider field of usefulness than is possible for the French original.